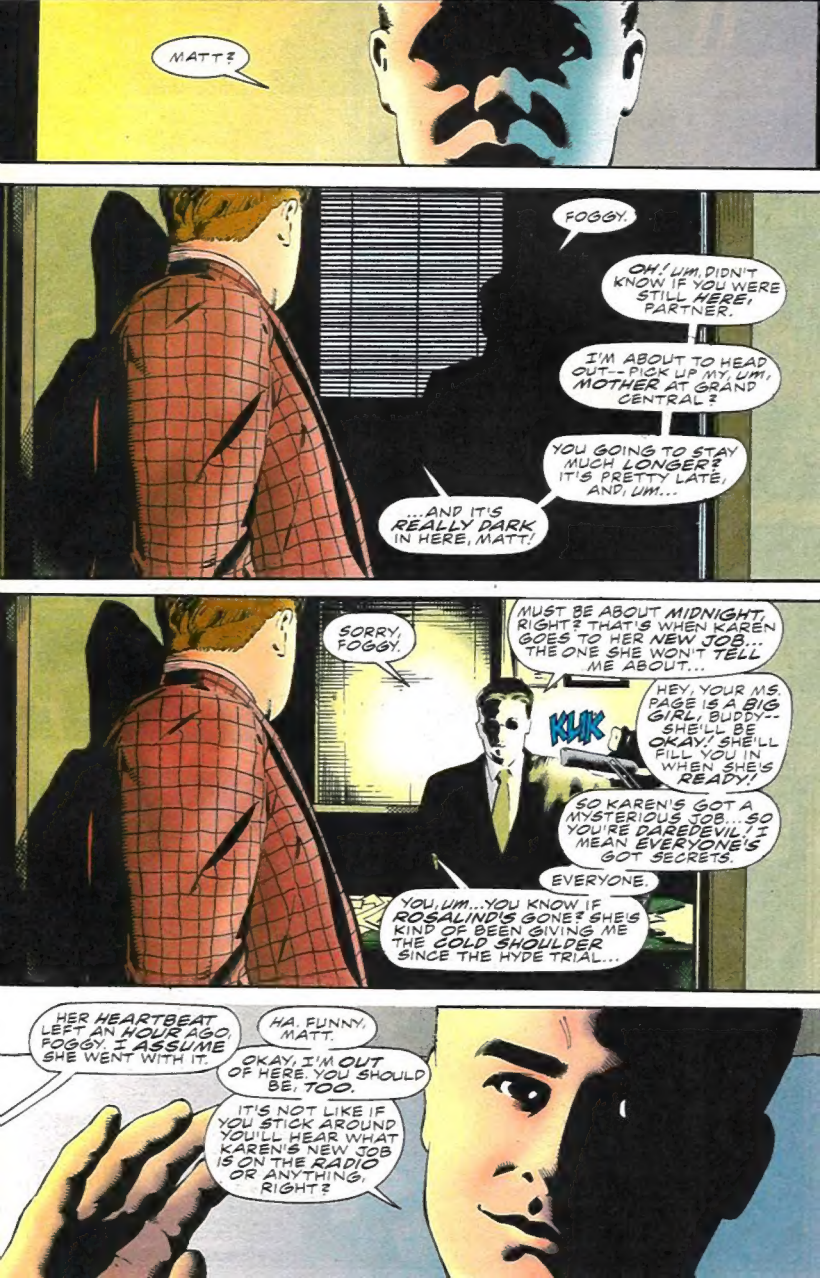
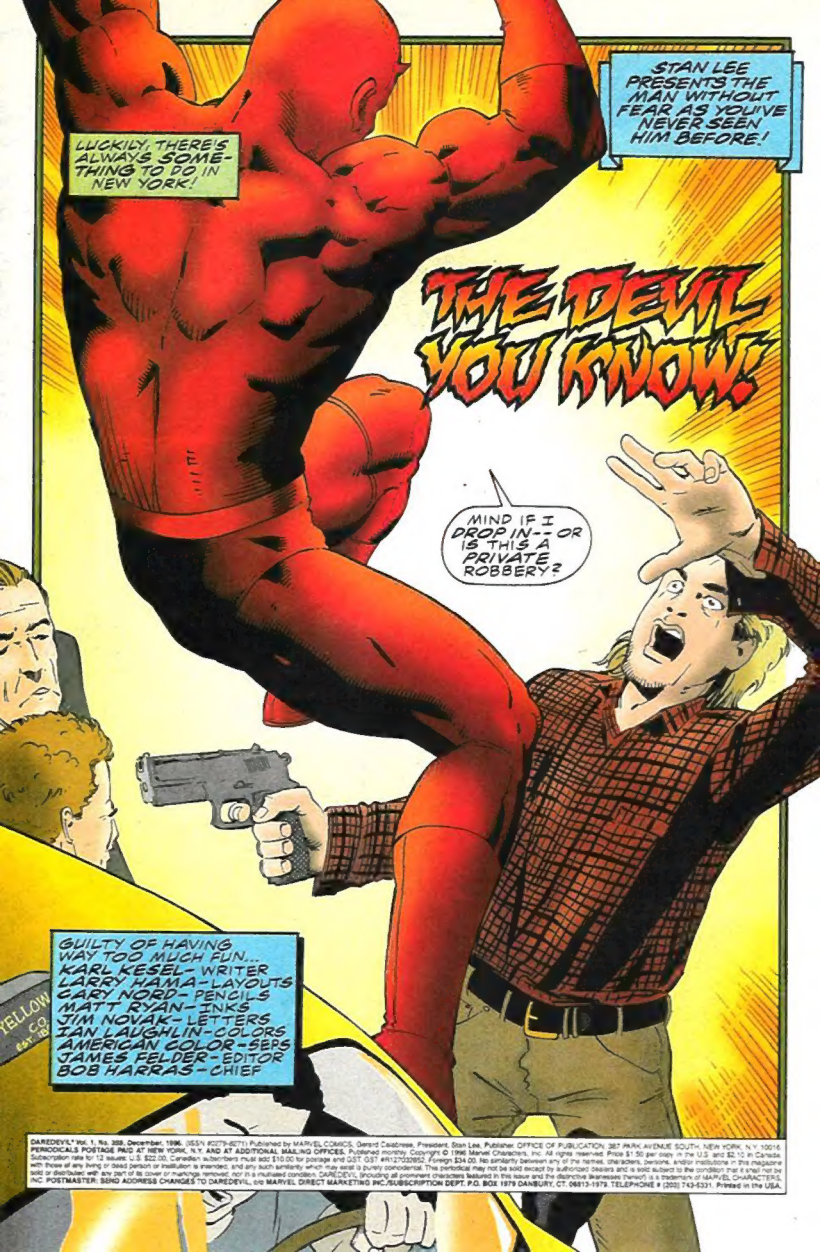
MARVEL COMICS
DAREDEVIL
DEC '96 350
DAREDEVIL
THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR
The LONG NIGHT
DIRECT EDITION
35911
7 59606 02459 9
$1.50 US $2.10 CAN


MATT?
FOGGY.
OH! UM, DIDN'T KNOW IF YOU WERE STILL HERE, PARTNER.
I'M ABOUT TO HEAD OUT-- PICK UP MY, UM, MOTHER AT GRAND CENTRAL?
YOU GOING TO STAY MUCH LONGER? IT'S PRETTY LATE, AND, UM...
...AND IT'S REALLY DARK IN HERE, MATT!
SORRY, FOGGY.
MUST BE ABOUT MIDNIGHT, RIGHT? THAT'S WHEN KAREN GOES TO HER NEW JOB, THE ONE SHE WON'T TELL ME ABOUT...
KLIK
HEY, YOUR MS. PAGE IS A BIG GIRL, BUDDY-- SHE'LL BE OKAY! SHE'LL FILL YOU IN WHEN SHE'S READY!
SO KAREN'S GOT A MYSTERIOUS JOB... SO YOU'RE DAREDEVIL! I MEAN EVERYONE'S GOT SECRETS.
EVERYONE.
YOU, UM...YOU KNOW IF ROSALIND'S GONE? SHE'S KIND OF BEEN GIVING ME THE COLD SHOULDER SINCE THE HYDE TRIAL...
HER HEARTBEAT LEFT AN HOUR AGO, FOGGY. I ASSUME SHE WENT WITH IT.
HA, FUNNY, MATT.
OKAY, I'M OUT OF HERE. YOU SHOULD BE, TOO.
IT'S NOT LIKE IF YOU STICK AROUND YOU'LL HEAR WHAT KAREN'S NEW JOB IS ON THE RADIO OR ANYTHING, RIGHT?

RIGHT... AND WRONG AT THE SAME TIME, GOOD OLD FOGGY.
MY PROBLEM ISN'T NOT KNOWING ABOUT KAREN'S JOB. IT'S THAT I COULD FIND OUT ABOUT IT IN A HEARTBEAT.
LITERALLY.
KLIK
I COULD FOLLOW HER TO WORK ON ANY EVENING BY THE SOUND OF HER PULSE.
FOCUS ON HER DISTINCTIVE CONTOUR FROM BLOCKS AWAY AS SHE ENTERED A BUILDING.
TLEK
KNOW WHAT FLOOR SHE GOT OFF THE ELEVATOR BY THE TRACES OF HER PERFUME.
RADAR AND HEIGHTENED SENSES--THE FEW BONUSES TO BEING BLINDED BY RADIATION WHEN I WAS YOUNGER.
BUT THEY'RE NO EXCUSE TO GO SPYING ON MY GIRLFRIEND.
IN FACT, THEY'RE EVERY REASON I NEED A DISTRACTION.


LUCKILY, THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING TO DO IN NEW YORK!
STAN LEE PRESENTS THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR AS YOU'VE NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE!
THE DEVIL YOU KNOW!
MIND IF I DROP IN-- OR IS THIS A PRIVATE ROBBERY?
GUILTY OF HAVING WAY TOO MUCH FUN...
KARL KESEL- WRITER
LARRY HAMA-LAYOUTS
CARY NORD- PENCILS
MATT RYAN- INKS
JIM NOVAK- LETTERS
IAN LAUGHLIN-COLORS
AMERICAN COLOR-SEPS
JAMES FELDER-EDITOR
BOB HARRAS-CHIEF

DAREDEVIL® Vol. 1, No. 269, December, 1996. (ISSN 0279-6271) Published by MARVEL COMICS, Gerard Calabrese, President, Stan Lee, Publisher. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright © 1996 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.50 per copy in the U.S. and $2.10 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. $22.00. Canadian subscribers must add $10.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032852. Foreign $34.00. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. DAREDEVIL (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL CHARACTERS, INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO DAREDEVIL, c/o MARVEL DIRECT MARKETING INC./SUBSCRIPTION DEPT. P.O. BOX 1979 DANBURY, CT. 06813-1979. TELEPHONE # (203) 743-5331. Printed in the USA.

GOOD LORD-- THERE'S SOMETHING ON YOUR FACE!
DON'T WORRY-- I'VE GOT IT!
HEY! OW! LEGGO!
TURNS OUT THE VICTIM-TO-BE IS RETIRED ARMY-- VERY CAPABLE OF HOLDING A PRISONER UNTIL AUTHORITIES ARRIVE.
YELLOW CAB CO.
I MAKE THE USUAL DEAL WITH THE DEVIL WITH HIM-- WATCH FOR HYDE, AND CALL THE LAW OFFICES OF SHARPE, NELSON AND MURDOCK IF HE'S SEEN.
I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S GOOD NEWS OR A SIGN OF THE APOCALYPSE, BUT THERE HASN'T BEEN A CALL ABOUT HYDE IN--
THA' REALLY HURT..
WAIT. ALMOST THOUGHT I HEARD KAREN'S VOICE... FROM INSIDE THE CAB?
BUT THERE'S ONLY THE DRIVER, PUNCHING BUTTONS ON THE RADIO A LITTLE TOO QUICKLY.
CAN WE TALK--?
HIS HEARTBEAT'S IN OVERDRIVE, AND THERE'S NO MISTAKING THAT HOT, COPPERY SMELL.
THE SMELL OF FEAR.

OKAY, THERE'S THE CHANCE HE MIS-UNDERSTOOD ME...
NO! YOU GOT TOMMY--BUT YOU WON'T GET ME!
SKREEEE--!
'SCUSE ME, SON--BUT AS PER THE LAWS OF THE SUPERHERO CHARTER, IN COOPERATION WITH THE GREAT STATE OF NEW YORK...
...I'M HEREBY DEPUTIZING YOUR SKATE-BOARD!
WHOA! TRASH IT, MAN!
FWIPPP!
YEAH. THAT'S THE PLAN.
MY BILLY-CLUB LINE SNAGS THE CAB'S BUMPER AND SNAPS TIGHT.
I GO FROM ZERO TO FIFTY IN A NEW YORK MINUTE.
I REMEMBER SOMETHING ABOUT "THE WORST YEAR FOR POTHOLES EVER!"
BUT THAT'S WHY THEY CALL ME DAREDEVIL, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!
AND IF I CAN'T STOP THIS LOW-LEVEL STREET-THIEF, I'M SURE THERE'S A LOT OF OTHER NAMES THEY'LL CALL ME...

DAREDEVIL--LAST OF THE RED HOT HEROES?
I'M PAIGE ANGEL, AND THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO DISCUSS BETWEEN DISCS TONIGHT.
THE FANTASTIC FOUR AND AVENGERS ARE GONE, BUT THEIR ENEMIES LINGER ON.
SO WHEN THE MASTERS OF EVIL KNOCK DOWN YOUR DOOR--WHO YA GONNA CALL?
LOOKS LIKE THE BEST ONE TO TRUST IS THE DEVIL YOU KNOW... BUT WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR?
YOU TELL ME...
SHE'S THE ANSWER TO OUR WISHES, RENNY.
ALL OUR WISHES!
THE BOARD'S LIGHTIN' UP, DOM! SHE ASKS AND THEY OBEY!
...TAKE YOUR BASIC HUMAN TORCH--DON'T GOTTA BE A ROCKET SCIENTIST TO FIGURE WHAT HE DOES, KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
BUT OL' HORNHEAD? FAR AS I SEE, HE'S A NORMAL GUY IN A RED SUIT...AN' I STOPPED BELIEVIN' IN SANTA CLAUS A LONG TIME AGO, KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
SORRY, TONY--BUT I'LL NEVER STOP BELIEVING.
PETER IN QUEENS--YOU'RE ON THE AIR.
I AM? OH, YOUR SHOW'S THE BEST, MISS ANGEL! I NEVER MISS IT!
GUESS THAT MAKES YOU MY FIRST OFFICIAL FAN, PETER.
NO WAY! AW, THAT'S TOO COOL! I WON'T LET YOU DOWN, MISS ANGEL!
OKAY, LOOK--I KIND'A STUDY SUPER-HEROES, Y'KNOW? COLLECT STUFF ABOUT 'EM? AND I GOT THIS IDEA ABOUT DD...

"...SEE, I BET HE WAS A REAL SWINGER--Y'KNOW, BEFORE HE WAS DAREDEVIL?
"KIND OF A FRANK SINATRA-TYPE, RIGHT? LIVIN' ON THE EDGE WITH ALL THOSE DAMES AND DICE...
"...AND DEATH!
"I MEAN, WISEGUYS DON'T LIKE WISECRACKS TOO MUCH. WATCH A FEW SCORSESE MOVIES, YOU KNOW THAT!
"SO HE DIED, RIGHT? AND WE'RE NOT TALKIN' PEARLY GATES HERE.
"THINK HE WAS SCARED? THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR? NO WAY.
"HE JUST WALKED UP TO SAM SCRATCH AND ARGUED AS GOOD AS THE BEST LAWYER HE'D BEEN SENT THERE BY MISTAKE...AND HE WON!
"I MEAN, HOW ELSE DID HE GET HIS NAME?
"Y'KNOW--DARE-DEVIL. GET IT?
SSSSMOKIN'!
SNAP!
"AND ALL THOSE TIMES HE'S BEEN KILLED? SORRY. NEVER HAPPENED.
"HE CAN'T BE KILLED. THAT'S PART OF THE DEAL!
"SINCE DAY ONE, ONLY ONE GUY'S BEEN DAREDEVIL! I'M TOTALLY POSITIVE OF THAT!!!

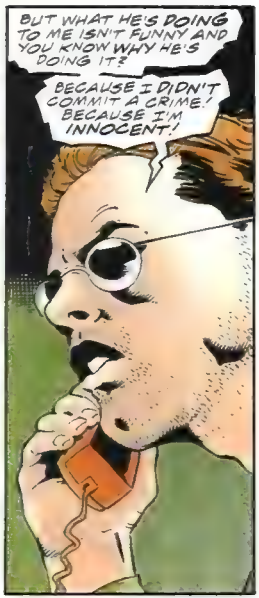
I'M SURE YOU ARE, PETER. THANKS FOR--
WAIT! I GOT THIS OTHER IDEA ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT SUPPRESSING REED RICHARDS' CANCER CURE--
BLAM! BLAM! BLAM
STAY AWAY FROM ME, DEVIL! STAY AWAY!
HEY--EYES ON THE ROAD, BUDDY!
A FEW WEEKS AGO, I MIGHT'VE STREET-SURFED BEHIND MR. TAXI UNTIL HE RAN OUT OF GAS.
IT'S GOOD EXERCISE, AND A NICE WAY TO VISIT DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE CITY.
KWOOOOM
BUT THAT WAS WHEN THERE WAS AT LEAST A DOZEN OTHER HEROES COVERING THE WATERFRONT--NOT TO MENTION THE REST OF TOWN.
THE LONGER I SPEND WITH MY (I ASSUME) YELLOW FRIEND, THE MORE LIKELY, SAY, ELECTRO IS ZAPPING ATMS CLEAN OF CASH WITH NO ONE STOPPING HIM.
THEN WE TAKE A CORNER AS IF SANDRA BULLOCK'S DRIVING, AND I KNOW I'M GOING TO SWING WIDE...
...RIGHT INTO A NICE LADY AND TWO CHILDREN WHO ARE ABOUT TO LEARN THE PHYSICAL LAWS OF VELOCITY THE HARD WAY!
SKREEEE
THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT I WAS HOPING WOULD HAPPEN!
YELLOW CAB CO.
AE-EEE

NO NEED TO MOVE, MA'AM...
OH!
...I TRAIN FOR SITUATIONS LIKE THIS EVERY DAY IN MY SECRET DEVIL'S DEN HEADQUARTERS!
THIS IS A SLIGHT VARIATION ON A MANEUVER FIRST INTRODUCED BY CAPTAIN AMERICA IN APRIL, 1943.
OF COURSE, THANKS TO MODERN FIBER-GLASS FLAG-POLES, I CAN ADD A GOOD TWENTY-FIVE FEET TO MY DISMOUNT...
WHUMM
...MORE THAN ENOUGH DISTANCE TO APPREHEND MOST OF TODAY'S FLEEING CRIMINALS.
THAT'S RIGHT, SIR--I'M TALKING ABOUT YOU!
TURN THE METER OFF--THIS IS WHERE YOU GET OUT!

--EVER HAPPENED TO THOSE CUTE LI'L WISEGUYS THAT DAREDEVIL USED TO HELP OUT, PAIGE? THOSE KIDS WERE SO FUNNY!
I'M SORRY, SARAH--I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT. BUT I'LL LOOK INTO IT, OKAY?
NEXT UP--WADE N. STATEN ISLAND HELLO, WADE
HELLO, PAIGE. I'M GLAD YOU'RE DOING THIS SHOW BECAUSE THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT DAREDEVIL THAT'S ALWAYS BOTHERED ME...
"...THE FACT THAT HIS MASK ACTUALLY COVERS HIS EYES.
"I DON'T KNOW WHY NO ONE'S EVER MENTIONED THIS BEFORE. BUT I DO THINK THE REASON IS FAIRLY OBVIOUS.
"SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED TO DAREDEVIL'S EYES.
"I DON'T KNOW WHAT--BUT I THINK IT'S SAFE TO ASSUME THEY DON'T LOOK NORMAL.
"MAYBE--AND I KNOW THIS IS GOING TO SOUND STUPID--BUT MAYBE HE WAS BITTEN BY A RADIO-ACTIVE BUG OF SOME KIND
"MAYBE HE HAS FACETED INSECT-EYES
"THINK ABOUT IT. I'M SURE YOU'VE HEARD THE SAME REPORTS I HAVE
"DAREDEVIL MUST HAVE SOME SORT OF NIGHT VISION...X-RAY VISION...POSSIBLY EVEN SEES ACROSS A WIDE SPECTRUM INVISIBLE TO THE REST OF US.
"I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED TO FIND OUT THAT DAREDEVIL CAN SEE BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE ON THE PLANET."

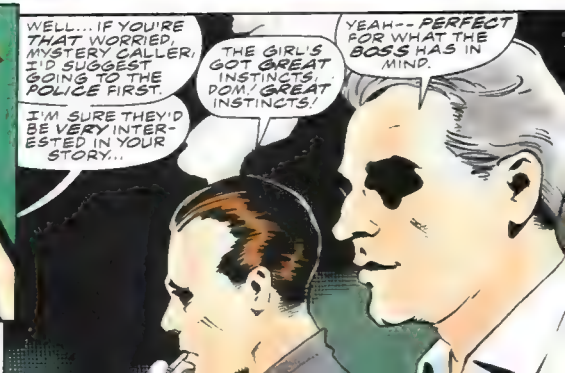
WELL, SOMETHING TELLS ME YOU'RE EITHER RIGHT OR WRONG ON THIS ONE, WADE. KEEP IN TOUCH
SAMUEL IN NEWARK. WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND, SAM?
SAMUEL. MY NAME'S SAMUEL.
AND I CAN'T BELIEVE WE TREAT HIM AS A SAVIOR...
"...WHEN HE TELLS US TO OUR FACE HE'S THE DEVIL!
"YOU THINK HE DIDN'T ORCHESTRATE THE ONSLAUGHT THAT MURDERED ONLY THE MOST INSPIRATIONAL OF OUR HEROES?
"AND NOW WE TURN TO HIM FOR SALVATION?
"CAN'T YOU SEE THAT'S HIS PLAN? THESE ARE THE END-TIMES AND--"
UM, THANKS FOR REMINDING ME, SAMUEL--WE ARE ALMOST OUT OF TIME, AND I WANT TO SQUEEZE IN ONE MORE CALL.
HELLO, LOWER EAST SIDE. I DON'T THINK WE GOT YOUR NAME.
IT...IT DOESN'T MATTER
HE'S WATCHING ME... WHEREVER I GO, DAY OR NIGHT, HIS EYES...
...HIS EYES FOLLOW ME...

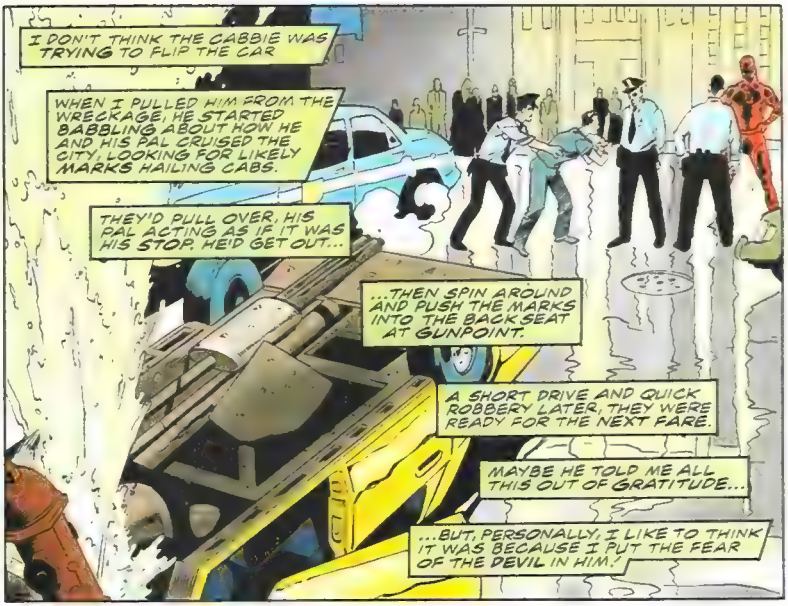
CAN'T TALK LONG, OR HE'LL FIND ME
I'M HIDING FROM HIM... TRYING TO SAVE MY SKIN...
NO... NO. TRYING TO SAVE MY HYDE!
LIV
heh! heh! THAT'S FUNNY, ISN'T IT? VERY FUNNY!


BUT WHAT HE'S DOING TO ME ISN'T FUNNY AND YOU KNOW WHY HE'S DOING IT?
BECAUSE I DIDN'T COMMIT A CRIME! BECAUSE I'M INNOCENT!

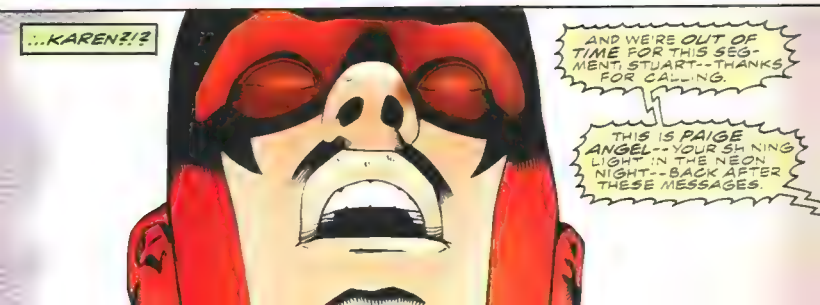
BUT I WILL HAVE MY REVENGE. I INVENTED THE DEVIL'S BREW, YOU KNOW. I CAN'T USE IT NOW. BUT I WILL ONE DAY... I WILL!
I AM THE DEVIL!
AND I'LL PROVE IT... BY KILLING THE DEVIL!

K-K


WELL... IF YOU'RE THAT WORRIED, MYSTERY CALLER, I'D SUGGEST GOING TO THE POLICE FIRST.
I'M SURE THEY'D BE VERY INTERESTED IN YOUR STORY...
THE GIRL'S GOT GREAT INSTINCTS, DOM. GREAT INSTINCTS!
YEAH-- PERFECT FOR WHAT THE BOSS HAS IN MIND.


I DON'T THINK THE CABBIE WAS TRYING TO FLIP THE CAR
WHEN I PULLED HIM FROM THE WRECKAGE, HE STARTED BABBLING ABOUT HOW HE AND HIS PAL CRUISED THE CITY, LOOKING FOR LIKELY MARKS HAILING CABS.
THEY'D PULL OVER, HIS PAL ACTING AS IF IT WAS HIS STOP. HE'D GET OUT...
...THEN SPIN AROUND AND PUSH THE MARKS INTO THE BACK SEAT AT GUNPOINT.
A SHORT DRIVE AND QUICK ROBBERY LATER, THEY WERE READY FOR THE NEXT FARE.
MAYBE HE TOLD ME ALL THIS OUT OF GRATITUDE...
...BUT, PERSONALLY, I LIKE TO THINK IT WAS BECAUSE I PUT THE FEAR OF THE DEVIL IN HIM.

--HAD THE FF AND AVENGERS TO BAIL HIM OUT! THERE'S NO WAY DAREDEVIL CAN PICK UP THE SLACK! DD'S ONLY ONE MAN, PAIGE!
ANOTHER MYSTERY SOLVED--MUSTIVE HEARD MY NAME MENTIONED ON THE RADIO EARLIER. I ONLY THOUGHT I HEARD...
ALE-ECEE


...KAREN?!?
AND WE'RE OUT OF TIME FOR THIS SEGMENT, STUART--THANKS FOR CALLING.
THIS IS PAIGE ANGEL--YOUR SHINING LIGHT IN THE NEON NIGHT--BACK AFTER THESE MESSAGES.

--COULDN'T GET AN EARLIER TRAIN, FOGGY--WHAT WITH MY WORK AT THE HOSPITAL...
ANY TIME YOU COME IS FINE, MOM--YOU KNOW THAT.
AND THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR YOU AT CASA NELSON.
UM, YOU GET THE BEDROOM--I'LL TAKE THE COUCH.
SIGH.
HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED HERE, FOGGY? I SWEAR IT'S HARDLY CHANGED SINCE THE DAY YOU MOVED IN.
OF COURSE, I'M SURE IT WILL--NOW THAT YOU'RE IN THE EMPLOY OF "RAZOR" SHARPE...
NELSON FOR D.A.
WELL, YOU HAVE YOUR OWN LIFE, AND YOU KNOW YOUR FATHER AND I WILL ALWAYS BE THERE FOR YOU. BUT--
HEY! UM, LOOK WHAT WAS STUCK UNDER MY DOOR--SOME KIND OF INVITATION!*
WONDER WHAT--
DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT, FOGGY.
HOW CAN YOU WORK FOR THAT WOMAN--AFTER WHAT SHE DID TO YOUR FATHER?
*IT'S AN INVITE TO THE ONE PARTY NO TRUE MARVELITE WILL WANT TO MISS... OVER IN SPIDER-MAN #75, ON SALE NOW!

WELL, UM... FIRST I'M, UM, I'M NOT WORKING FOR HER... EXACTLY.

I'M A PARTNER. UM, OKAY, JUNIOR PARTNER, BUT--

VRRING! VRRING!

--BUT I BETTER GET THIS.

EXCUSE THE LATE CALL, BUT OFFICE GOSSIP SAID MRS. NELSON WAS IN TOWN AND I SIMPLY HAD TO KNOW IF SHE ARRIVED SAFELY?

FRANKLIN? ROSALIND.

OH. TOO BAD...

WELL, ON A BRIGHTER NOTE-- I REALIZE I'VE BEEN A BIT SNIP-PISH WITH YOU LATELY, FRANKLIN.

I DON'T EVEN RECALL ITS CAUSE-- BETRAYING ME DURING THE HYDE TRIAL, PERHAPS?

NO MATTER--ALL IS FORGIVEN. IN FACT, I HAVE A LITTLE SURPRISE FOR YOU...

--USED TO BE A GUY WHO COULD REALLY KICK BUTT! NOW HE'S ACTIN' LIKE SOME CLASS CLOWN!

WHAT'S HE THINKIN', PAIGE-- BIG YUKS'LL STOP THE MUTIES NEXT TIME THEY ATTACK?

AT LEAST HE'S ACTUALLY THINKING... AND I'M THINKING IT'S TIME TO MOVE ON TO ROSALIND IN MANHATTAN...

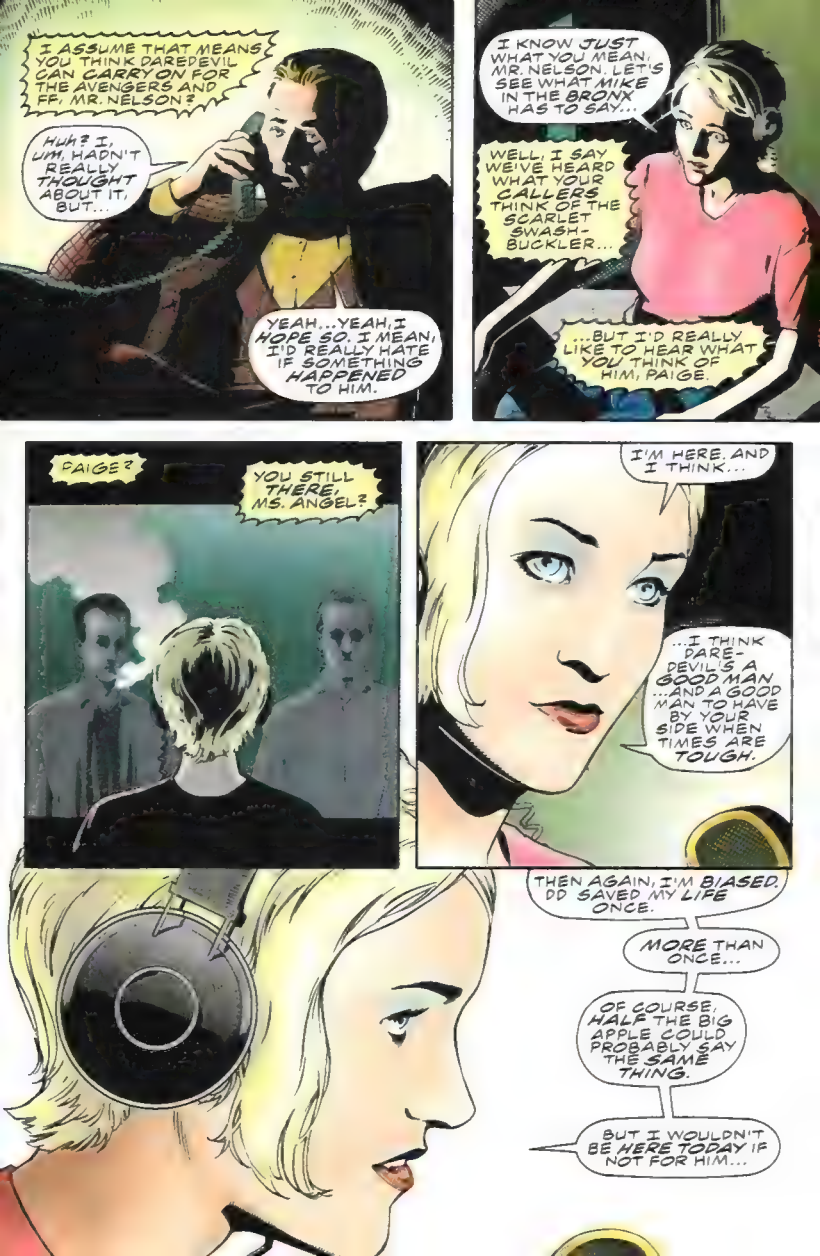
THANK YOU, PAIGE. I'VE BEEN LISTENING TO YOUR FASCINATING SHOW TONIGHT...

...BUT IF YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT DAREDEVIL YOU SHOULD TALK TO MY... PARTNER, FRANKLIN NELSON

HE'S THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR'S CLOSEST FRIEND, YOU KNOW. BY LUCK, HE'S ON MY OTHER LINE RIGHT NOW!

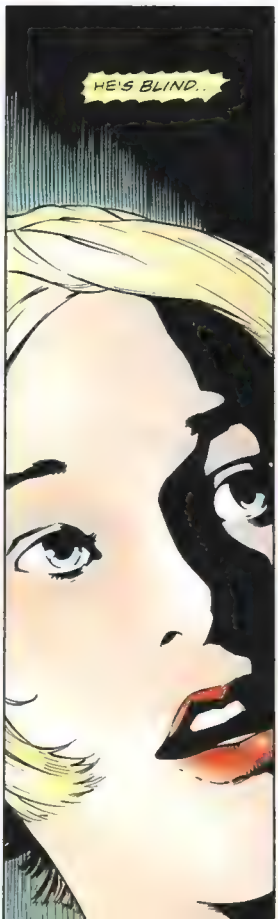
FRANKLIN? TELL EVERY-ONE IN RADIOLAND WHAT DAREDEVIL'S REALLY LIKE. YOU'RE ON THE AIR, MY BOY!

HUH? I...UM... WELL...
"...I, UM, I GUESS YOU COULD SAY I'VE KNOWN DD A LONG TIME, KIND OF.
"AND, UM, FROM THE BEGINNING I HELPED HIM WITH SOME OF HIS CASES...AND HE HELPED ME WITH A LOT OF MINE.
"THOSE WERE THE DAYS--THE TWO OF US, READY TO TAKE ON THE WORLD. THERE WAS NEVER A DULL MOMENT, THAT'S FOR SURE!
"SO I GUESS I KNOW DD PRETTY WELL--BUT THERE'S THINGS HE KEEPS TO HIMSELF ...THINGS THAT DON'T REALLY MATTER, EXCEPT THEY DO.
SECRET
"AND THAT BOTHERED ME...BUT LATELY I'VE BEEN THINKING THAT MAYBE WE ALL HAVE THINGS LIKE THAT.
"I MEAN, DD ALWAYS TREATED ME LIKE AN EQUAL PARTNER, AND YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE THAN THAT FROM ANYONE.
"AND HE TAUGHT ME THERE'S ONLY ONE THING REALLY, THAT YOU SHOULDN'T BE AFRAID OF--AND THAT'S FAILING.
"ONCE YOU GET PAST THAT, YOU'RE A REAL MAN WITHOUT FEAR.
"YOU DO THAT... YOU CAN DO ANYTHING!"


I ASSUME THAT MEANS YOU THINK DAREDEVIL CAN CARRY ON FOR THE AVENGERS AND FF, MR. NELSON?
HUH? I, UM, HADN'T REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT IT, BUT...
YEAH...YEAH, I HOPE SO. I MEAN, I'D REALLY HATE IF SOMETHING HAPPENED TO HIM.
I KNOW JUST WHAT YOU MEAN, MR. NELSON. LET'S SEE WHAT MIKE IN THE BRONX HAS TO SAY...
WELL, I SAY WE'VE HEARD WHAT YOUR CALLERS THINK OF THE SCARLET SWASH-BUCKLER...
...BUT I'D REALLY LIKE TO HEAR WHAT YOU THINK OF HIM, PAIGE.
PAIGE?
YOU STILL THERE, MS. ANGEL?
I'M HERE. AND I THINK...
...I THINK DARE-DEVIL'S A GOOD MAN ...AND A GOOD MAN TO HAVE BY YOUR SIDE WHEN TIMES ARE TOUGH.
THEN AGAIN, I'M BIASED. DD SAVED MY LIFE ONCE.
MORE THAN ONCE...
OF COURSE, HALF THE BIG APPLE COULD PROBABLY SAY THE SAME THING.
BUT I WOULDN'T BE HERE TODAY IF NOT FOR HIM...

I WANTED TO BE AN ACTRESS ONCE. I WANTED TO BE THE CENTER OF ATTENTION IN THE WORST WAY...
...AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED.
IT WAS A LONG, ROUGH ROAD BEFORE I REALIZED FAME ISN'T AS IMPORTANT AS THE MARK YOU LEAVE.
AND SOMETIMES WHO YOU ARE...OR WERE...GETS IN THE WAY OF DOING THAT
SO YOU PUT ON A MASK...

WE'RE STILL TALKING ABOUT DAREDEVIL, R'GHT?
OH! UM... OF COURSE, WE ARE.
SO...WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT DAREDEVIL, MIKE?


HE'S BLIND.

...BLIND TO WHAT PEOPLE THINK ABOUT HIM, AT LEAST.
BUT YOU'RE RIGHT, PAIGE--WHO YOU ARE DOESN'T MATTER AS MUCH AS WHAT YOU DO.
TAKE WESK, FOR INSTANCE. LOT OF BAD RUMORS ABOUT THAT PLACE--MONEY LAUNDERING...MOB CONNECTIONS...
YOU ASK ME, A MAN WHO DRESSES LIKE THE DEVIL WOULD APPRECIATE THE IRONY OF SOMEONE TRYING TO USE A PLACE LIKE THAT AS A POWER FOR GOOD.

WELL, I BETTER GET GOING.
TALK TO YOU LATER... PAIGE.
MATT--?
ER... MATTER OF FACT, WE HAVE TO GO, TOO.
BUT WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK AFTER THIS IMPORTANT MESSAGE...
FOR ONE BRIGHT, SHINING MOMENT, IT DOESN'T MATTER IF PEOPLE THINK I CAN FILL THE SHOES OF THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST HEROES OR NOT.
I LEAP INTO THE AIR...
...BUT I FEEL LIKE I CAN FLY!

FOUR FREEDOMS PLAZA SWAYS SO LITTLE IN THE MORNING SUN, MOST PEOPLE WOULDN'T NOTICE IT.
I DO. AND WHILE I MAY NOT HAVE THE RAW POWER OF THE HEROES WHO USED TO LIVE HERE...
...I WILL DO EVERYTHING I CAN TO MAKE SURE THIS BUILDING IS A LEGACY TO THEIR GREATNESS, AND NOT A TOMBSTONE.
ALL AROUND ME, THE CITY THAT NEVER SLEEPS BEGINS TO MOVE AGAIN.
DELIVERY TRUCKS FILLED WITH WARM BREADS OR COOL PRODUCE RATTLE DOWN SIDE STREETS.
ALARM CLOCKS RING.
THE SMELL OF COFFEE FILLS THE AIR.
HORNS BLARE AT A FENDER-BENDER BLOCKING CANAL STREET AND WEST BROADWAY.
KAREN SIGNS OFF FOR THE NIGHT.
ACROSS TOWN, A SECURITY BELL GOES OFF.
TIME TO GET TO WORK.

B-DANG! B-DANG! B-DANG! B-DANG! B-D
THANKS, JOEY --THAT NOISE REALLY GETS ON MY NERVES!
SO... SOME IDIOT'S TRYING TO KNOCK OVER THE DIAMOND EXCHANGE ON OUR WATCH--CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?
C'MON, SIMPLE SIMON--HANDS UP, AND DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING!
YOU GONNA BE REAL SORRY YOU CALLED ME THAT, BOY! I AIN'T STUPID...
...AN' I'LL TOUCH ANYTHIN' I WANT!
'CAUSE I'M CRUSHER CREEL--THE ABSORBING MAN!
I FACED DOWN THOR, I TOOK ON ALL'A THE AVENGERS! THIS TOWN'S MINE NOW!
WAMM

WHO'S GONNA STOP ME?
WHO'S GONNA DARE?
HEY--COULD I ASK FOR A BETTER ENTRANCE LINE, OR WHAT?
WHO'S GONNA DARE, MR. BRICK-FOR-BRAINS?
WHO DO YOU THINK?
THROK!
NEXT: DAREDEVIL IN THE DEADLIEST FIGHT OF HIS LIFE... ALONE AGAINST THE ABSORBING MAN!

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

c/o Marvel Entertainment Group Inc. 387 Park Avenue South, New York, New York 10016. Please include your name and address, though we will withhold that information upon request.

THE PROFESSOR ● EDITOR PAUL TUTRONE ● ASSISTANT EDITOR BOB HARRAS ● EDITOR IN CHIEF

Dear Devil's Advocate,

I'm just beginning to collect DAREDEVIL and I must say that *I love it.* I have read DD a little in the past, and for a while there, it seemed to be losing some of its magic. But the team of Cary Nord and Karl Kesel has really brought the classic pizzazz of this title back. It's great that you've chosen to bring back old characters like Foggy and Karen—the book was lacking without them. Most of all, I like the great enemies from the past that have resurfaced, like Pyro and the Enforcers (I haven't seen these guys since AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #141).

The stories have been better than ever. It's been a long time since I've seen a comic that hasn't tried to endlessly hype itself with flashy covers and screwing around with the characters (read: cloning). DD just has good old-fashioned stories with real plots and classic characters (I really like Matt defending Hyde—the idea is brilliant!). You guys are not just making comics anymore, you're making classics. Thanks.

Jon Sutkay
21347 Lincoln Rd.
Sterling, IL 61081

You're welcome, Jon. And thank you for coming back to the DD fold! A lot of readers have liked the idea of Matt being forced to defend one of his greatest enemies! But just because Hyde's trial has ended doesn't mean we've seen the last of this big bruiser...read this issue closely for a Zabo-rific cameo!

Dear Kesel & Nord,

In my history of reading comics, I've sporadically collected DAREDEVIL through the years. Usually it was the writer/artist team that piqued my interest to pick up an issue. The last time I did this was with Chichester & McDaniel.

Anyway, add the crime and legal aspects of television series such as "Law & Order", "Homicide" and about a million fictional law novels, mix in the continuity of past writers of DAREDEVIL, then sift in a few new characters like "Razor", and then bake in a pan of "recycled" Marvel criminals . . . and you get a DAREDEVIL any fan can pick up and enjoy!

Kesel has never impressed me as a fantastic writer, but he has always been dependable to deliver a solid story. The Hyde arc is well thought out and develops Murdock the lawyer, not Daredevil the vigilante. Marvel has heroes running about capturing the villains, but what legal aspects keep these offenders in prison? Also, if a person is faster than a locomotive or able to leap tall buildings in a single bound, how can ordinary human law deal or possibly hope to adapt to these situations? All citizens of the United States have rights that need to be upheld. I hope these issues will be addressed with this new DAREDEVIL team.

The reprise of Liz Osborn, Misty Knight, the Enforcers, Hyde, and the Eel is like a reunion in the Marvel Universe and each of these characters has changed and developed with the times. Something Marvel needs to do. The addition of new characters is usually necessary with a new team, but Kesel adds the "Razor" and Sunny Sitka, who both seem interesting.

Cary Nord's work I observed in his Amalgam issue, BRUCE WAYNE, AGENT OF S.H.I.E.L.D. I wasn't impressed by the issue, but saw a few interesting highlights. In DAREDEVIL, Nord captures the contradicting look of Murdock the lawyer and Daredevil the hero very well. Daredevil is a man in costume. He's not overmuscled, but slim and athletic. His costume isn't painted on, but worn. Unfortunately, Nord's Mr. Hyde, with the pointed ears, vampire teeth, and red eyes, resembles a blood-sucking elf with giantism—not the large, crazy guy we love to hate. However, Nord makes up for this with a modern-looking, elegant, savvy Karen Page.

Once again DAREDEVIL is on my list. Thank you.

Jay Kalagayan
1021 Dana Ave.
Cincinnati, OH 45229

Jay, for someone who says you're not impressed...you've sent along some very complimentary words to our Radar Crew. When you do get impressed, we're expecting chocolates and roses!

We're going to be addressing some of the issues you raise in the months to come — and keep your bananas peeled for a prison tale that'll make you glad you're a free man!

Dear Daredevils,

I've collected comics for a while now and I must say that issue #355 was one of the best comics I've ever bought. When I first purchased this DD, I thought that it would have something to do with Onslaught like in all the other Marvel Comics titles. But when I opened the comic and started reading, boy was I surprised that it had nothing to do with any complex, messy storylines!

This is the way comics should be! Just like in the old days, when you were able to pick up an issue and understand what was going on without having to read a bunch of issues from the past.

The writing was superb by Karl Kesel and the artwork was just perfect by Cary Nord. Having Pyro appear was a great idea. I think you should try and somehow get Bullseye back in the picture. Keep up the good work, and until Daredevil trades in his billy club for a candy cane, Make Mine Marvel!

Mitchell Eliasson
217 13th Avenue East
Watrous, Saskatchewan
Canada S0K 4T0

Mitchell, Bullseye is back in the new Elektra book. DD's got his hands full with a bunch of other villains for the moment — the Absorbing Man being the most momentous!

Now on a totally, semi-unrelated topic. Have you ever seen the *Mystery Science Theater 3000* episode with Mitchell in it? Most hilarious — and it will make you proud to be a fellow Mitchell!

Dear Daredevil,

Karl Kesel proceeds with an interesting story, adding in new elements with each issue, while keeping the overall story well in the forefront of readers' minds. It is a brilliant technique and one which I am enjoying.

Plot-wise, I'm hoping Kesel doesn't involve the cliche of the '90s and have Karen be a stripper or an exotic dancer. Please save us from that. (I knew that had been worn out when I saw it in Independence Day.)

Cary Nord, in the meantime, seems to be one of those all-too-rare artists who can handle the super-heroics just as easily as the slower, more personal scenes, such as those at the law firm. He has a wide range and variety of facial expressions and a style which is easy on the eyes.

Augie DeBlieck, Jr.
(Address withheld by request)

By now, you know that Karl didn't go the cliched route of exotic dancer (thank the stars!). No, Karen's new job (that she's been keeping a secret from Matt) is that of radio disc jockey! But what's with those sinister fellas Cary's been drawing around the station? And those call letters . . . WFSK? What's that all about? Stay tuned, loyal devils.

NEXT ISSUE:

You'll believe a super hero can be squashed to a bloody, wet pulp! And that's just what happens on the letters page! Be here in a month for Absorbing Mayhem courtesy of Kesel, Nord, Ryan and the rest of the Radar Crew!